Mr. Laun

SUMMARY TRANSLATION OF "RADIO" NO. 07 [JULY] FOR 1990

[Rough, summary translations of selected articles, mostly on amateur radio subjects, from **RADIO**, a monthly magazine published jointly by the Ministry of Communication of the USSR and the military-training organization DOSAAF.]

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[Square brackets set off material added by the translator **and not appearing in the original** -- such as a comment, reference, or equivalent expression in another language.]

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Please send corrections and comments, for possible inclusion in a future issue, to:

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pp 2 - 3: "HOW SHOULD WE REORGANIZE THE FRS?" ["KAK NAM REORGANIZOVAT' FRS?"], by G[eorgiy] Khodzhayev, UA4PW, Kazan' [capital of the Tatarskaya ASSR].

[in series on preparations for the All-Union DOSAAF Conference]

The purpose of this article is to draw attention to problems affecting the Soviet shortwave movement -- problems that have been raised at various conferences and meetings but about which practically nothing has been done. And in the near future the situation evidently won't change, since it is directly related to the economic situation in the country.

However, there are also several subjective factors that are slowing the development of the shortwave movement in the USSR. It's clear to me that the management style in the shortwave movement needs a complete transformation. Life again and again convinces us that equating [??? - svedeniye] the shortwave movement to shortwave sport alone is a serious error. An analysis of shortwave competitions [contests] shows that only 5 to 7 percent of amateur stations take part in them. This is because "hunting" for DX stations and diplomas [certificates], construction and updating of equipment and antennas, use of computers, low-power operation, etc., are not considered "pure" sport.

We have forgotten that from the outset the appeal of short wave was the joy of contacting friends over the air. But this is apparently of little interest to the Shortwave Committee of the FRS of the USSR, which basically deals with sport.

However, everything isn't going well even with "pure" sport. The poor state of collective stations of DOSAAF radio technical schools and combined technical schools is certainly one reason for low participation in shortwave competitions. In the 1960s, collective stations of DOSAAF radio clubs, prior to their conversion into schools, were centers of the shortwave movement at the local level. Alas, these traditions, which dated back to the pre-war years, have been hopelessly lost.

The inability of officials of radio-technical-school and sport-technical-club collective stations to function was proven during the tragic events in Armenia [the earthquake of 7 December 1988], when amateur radio communication was established spontaneously, mainly by operators of individual stations [individual'nyye stantsii][1].

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[1]The implied criticism here would be clear to the Soviet reader. In the past at least, the Soviet system has had a distinct aversion to uncontrolled private initiatives. The fact that the most effective action to establish amateur communications following the earthquake was taken by individual amateurs acting on their own is consequently given at best grudging recognition.

... The shortwave movement is getting old. Each year the number of radiostations in schools, vocational schools, and pioneer palaces is diminishing. The subject of increasing the number of women operators is best left unmentioned.

Nobody should be indifferent to the fact that the prestige of the Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR and of its Shortwave Committee is decreasing steadily, as indicated by comments over the air and at amateur conferences and meetings.

Unfortunately, bureaucracy and red tape [byurokratizm i volokita] still characterize the work of the Committee, even when deciding insignificant matters. For example, a decision taken to examine, at a regular session of the FRS, the matter of new callsigns for stations in the Arctic, Antarctic, and Franz Josef Land, as announced in the bulletin of the Federation of Radio Sport and the Central Radio Club. However, three months later at a session it turned out that the Chairman of the Shortwave Committee, K[onstantin Kh.] Khachaturov, [UW3AA, ex-UW3HV,] hadn't had the time to do anything. It's also indicative that the extremely urgent subject of using excessive power at amateur stations -- which has great social, educational, yes and even sports significance -- is modestly hushed up.

It's as though they don't intend to take it up at all.

Over the last three years, such entirely new structures as "Inter-Radio," the West Siberian DX Club, and the "Zilan DX Club" have sprung up. They've been fairly successful in resolving a number of problems associated with the shortwave movement, including making international contacts. It's sufficient to mention the Soviet-American meetings on the Volga, in the Arctic, and in the Altay [mountains], as well as the reciprocal visits between shortwavers of the FRG and the Komi ASSR.

Of course, one can only welcome such activities, but all of them took place without the participation of the FRS of the USSR or [its] Shortwave Committee.

Naturally, the question arises as to whether the Shortwave Committee is capable of managing these new organizations, which contain highly competent radio amateurs. I hardly think so. We'll probably have to finally admit that an objective process of decentralization and local initiative is under way. This is a sign of the times. Nonetheless, I consider it necessary to think about uniting the efforts and coordinating the activities of the FRS and the new organizations. In my view it's necessary to form an Association [Assotsiatsiya] encompassing radiosections, clubs, and other local organizations.[2]

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[2]Note the resistance, evident throughout this paragraph, to the notions of decentralization and local initiative, both of which run counter to the Soviet preference for central control. Even more important, this paragraph can be read as a call for asserting or reasserting central control cover organizations that have displayed local initiative.

To deal with day-to-day matters, we should think of establishing an official executive bureau [shtatnoye ispolnitel'noye byuro] of the Association, consisting of three or four highly competent shortwavers who would carry out decisions. The bureau should operate on a financially self-supporting basis.

If each shortwaver contributed, say, one ruble, the annual budget of the Bureau would be 35 - 40 thousand rubles.[3]

And again about the rôle of "pure" shortwave (and, naturally, ultrashortwave) sport in the shortwave movement. It's possible that to manage this important segment of amateur radio activity, as well as other forms of radiospport, it would be worthwhile to establish a separate organizational structure.

Finally, it seems logical to reorganize the FRS USSR into a Union of Radio Amateurs of the USSR [Soyuz radiolyubiteley SSSR], encompassing three structures:

- An Association of Radioamateur Communication [Assotsiatsiya radiolyubitel'skoy svyazi];
- a Federation of Radio Sport [Federatsiya radiosporta] [the same as the present name] (for on-site and off-site forms of sport);
- an Association of Radio Amateur Creativity [Assotsiatsiya radiolyubitel'skogo tvorchestva].

p 3: "WITHOUT THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE" ["BEZ PRAVA VYBORA"], by V. Shcherbakov, RA3YF, Bryansk.

After I had gotten acquainted in detail with the Rules on Radioexpeditions [Polozheniye o radioekspeditsiyakh] which were distributed to DOSAAF radio technical schools, I concluded that they were written by someone who had nothing to do with expeditions or who was deliberately trying to destroy this activity.

Judge for yourself. According to the Rules, the following requirements must now be met to conduct an expedition:

First, a document must be submitted showing the callsigns of the participants, their sport or judges' titles, category of station, equipment, bands, operating modes, power, and so forth. All these data must be presented to the DOSAAF Oblast' Committee. Who in the DOSAAF Oblast' Committee needs them?

Second, you have to report who is financing the expedition. What for? Perhaps to lend solidity to the form [anketa]?

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[3]This suggests a total of between 35000 and 40000 "shortwavers." It is uncertain whether this range includes "ultrashortwavers" -- VHF/UHF/SHF operators, often treated as a distinct category. Data given in the "CQ-U column" in RADIO #03/1990, page 23 (page 13 of summary translation) suggest ultrashortwavers are <u>not</u> included: They show that as of 1 November 1989, there were 48013 individual stations and 5668 collective stations, for a total of 53681 amateur stations. No breakdown was given, nor do I recall ever having seen one, between shortwave and ultrashortwave stations.

Next. The agreement of the FRS of the oblast' to which the expedition is planned is required. Why this condition? After all, it's no secret that in several oblasts in the European part of the USSR, FRS members don't meet for months at a time. Whose agreement can one get? I'm not even speaking of DX areas where one or two stations are in operation or where there aren't any.

In this situation, those wishing to go off on expeditions will be forced to await permission for from six months to infinity; that's how long my comrades and I have been waiting. We sent draft agreements on conducting expeditions to all republic and oblast' FRS's. We received a noncommital answer from the Byelorussian FRS and received information over the air from the Georgian FRS; all the others have been mute as fish [nemý, kak rýby].

The Rules state that permission to operate is given by the GIE [gosudarstvennaya inspektsiya elektrosvyazi - State Telecommunication Inspectorate - an element of the Ministry of Communication which is roughly equivalent to the Federal Communications Commission in the United States but which has local subdivisions] of the republic or oblast' to which the expedition is going. But permission to leave one's own oblast' and for transport of equipment is given by the [one's own] local GIE, which as a rule requires an agreement concerning callsigns with the GIE of the place to which the expedition is going, plus the agreement of the FRS of that place, plus an application to conduct an expedition from one's own FRS. In general it takes from four to six months to process all these documents.

How should all of this be organized in my view? To conduct a radioexpedition, it should be sufficient to present a permit to operate on the air [razresheniye na rabotu v efire]. I believe that any citizen of the USSR who is a radio amateur has the right, without any bureaucratic papers, to go on the air on USSR territory with his own callsign, with an indication following a fraction bar of the prefix of the oblast' where he's operating from. If there are objections on the part of the republic or oblast' organs, it is necessary to define a single [type of] prefix (UG, UD1, etc.) for participants in radioexpeditions. All other prefixes can be used by radio amateurs as they see fit. By doing this, we wouldn't limit them in their choice of "exotic" callsigns, and at the same time those who want to spend their vacation with their station in some area or other of the USSR wouldn't suffer. But special callsigns could only be issued with the agreement of the FRS of the area to which the radiotourist is going.

I also think the radio amateur should receive his permit for transporting equipment and his callsign from the GIE at his place of residence, processing all of his documents within 3 to 5 days.

Generally, the Rules on Radioexpeditions drawn up by the FRS USSR and the CRC USSR and confirmed by the CC DOSAAF USSR weren't well thought through and don't help to develop amateur radio or to publicize radioexpeditions. They practically deprive amateurs wishing to engage in radiotourism of their right of free choice.

The permit to operate on the air, issued by the GIE, should be equally valid on all USSR territory.

pp 7 - 8: "SECRETS OF THE 'ANOMALOUS ZONE'" ["TAYNY 'ANOMAL'NOY ZONY'"], by K[onstantin Kh.] Khachaturov, UW3AA, [ex-UW3HV, Chairman, Shortwave Committee, FRS USSR], Moscow.

The proposal was unexpected and enticing. An expedition was being readied to go to the "Perm' Anomalous Zone" -- to the place about which many gripping stories have been told recently. The goal of the expedition was to conduct medical and biological exploration, observation, and study of unusual phenomena in the "zone" and to take a short film if there was anything to observe.

... The author was invited along as radio operator.

Before the expedition, I spoke with several members of the Soviet QRQ Club. We decided to strengthen the shortwave amateur radio aspect of the expedition and operate under the flag of the U-QRQ-C with the callsign 4L1QRQ/9.[4]

Within severe space limitations, we brought antennas, a portable table, radiation-measuring equipment, and a transistorized receiver. Learning of my plans, Valeriy Agabekov, UA6HZ, offered his FT-757 transceiver which had already been tried out on expeditions. It was small, light, and used 13.5 V power.

Getting there wasn't a simple matter. We traveled by train, motor vehicle [??? - poputnaya mashina - interurban taxi?], or on skis, hurrying to socialize [pooshchat'sya] as soon as possible with the "boys" [rebyata], as they call the possible inhabitants of UFO's here [UFO = unidentified flying object = NLO = neopoznanyy letayushchiy ob"yekt] ...

We reached the appointed place after it had gotten completely dark. On a meadow next to an old log cabin, someone was chopping firewood. "Aleksey" introduced himself and invited us inside. By candlelight, he told he was from Vladivostok, belonged to an UFO section, took leave, and came here. He hadn't seen any "saucers" ["tarelki" - "plates"] so far, but last night he approached the edge of the meadow and had flashed around with a lantern. In reply, "they" had flashed with something.

Meanwhile we settled in and I got busy setting up a 10.4m vertical antenna attached to the cabin. True, the thought never left my head -- will the transceiver operate, will the "boys" allow it to be turned on? I had been warned that photographic equipment didn't work in the "zone" and that receiver frequencies would arbitrarily change; if equipment failed to work one should quietly go to sleep -- by morning it would correct itself.

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[4]The "CQ-U" column in RADIO #06/1990, page 21 (summary translation RADIO #06/1990, page 13) gave the dates of the 4L1QRQ/9 operation as 20 February through 1 March 1990 and reported that 3500 QSOs were made. QSL cards for 4L1QRQ/9 were to be sent to UW1AA at P. O. Box 1, 117588 MOSCOW.

So everything was ready. Everyone gathered around. I carefully pressed the button and ... the transceiver went on [zarabotal] but somehow in a strange way. For an ear accustomed to city noises, the ideal clarity [prozrachnost'] of the airwaves was very unusual. And although many kilometers separated us from the nearest source of interference, we were inclined to attribute this clarity to "their" kind disposition toward us. On the first try I got Vladimir, UA3LCR, from Smolensk, and received 579. Learning where we were, he monitored my operation and reported that my signals were normal. Having thus acquired confidence, I found a clear spot and called CQ.

A normal radioexpedition type of operation began.

Information that the QRQ Club was operating from "Perm' Anamolous Zone" spread instantaneously. There were plenty of stations to work -- from England to Japan. True, sometimes the signals shook [drozhali] like during an "aurora."

...

Members of the U-QRQ-C kept watch on frequency, ready to copy any reports. Aleksandr, UA9FHJ, and Vladimir, UA9FHO, from Kungur, and Yuriy, UV9FJ, from Perm', organized a net on 80m. Our relatives could sleep soundly -- Andrey Novosëlov, RW3AO, regularly described our life in the most glowing tones ...

At night the sky lit up with bright light-blue bursts. We counted 28. Then half the sky was lit up with an even grey/light-blue color, the brightness of which began to diminish, not steadily but in gradations. Ten seconds later, when the light disappeared, a stormy discussion began about what we had seen.

There were many versions. Most were inclined to think that this was regular heat-lightning, the result of the collision of warm and cold fronts. Later, Valeriy Begunov, UW3HY, told me that on the same days he observed something similar at night in Moscow.

The next morning, the radioshack was again filled with excited voices. "Konstantin, if you only know how frightening [zhutkoye] this place is -- our tent." [Translator's comment: This suggests that Konstantin Shul'gin must have slept elsewhere, perhaps in the cabin.] Shivering [Poyezhivayas'] from the cold, they told how the day before they noticed how tired they had become getting to the tent, and how at night it became completely unbearable -- a sensation of heaviness, cold, and constant banging and howling [khlopki i zavyvaniya].

I had already heard that the location of the tent in the "zone" could have such an effect. I myself, approaching the tent first, felt tired. But I explained this simply by the difficult trip, sleepless nights, and constantly sinking through the deep snow while walking.

We picked a new location [for the tent] based on the relief. A convenient place was found right nearby, at the edge of the forest, protected on all sides by trees and snowbanks. Everyone was satisfied. And various instruments [pribory] were installed on the "frightening mound" [na "zhutkom bugorke"; this may refer to the initial tent location].

And for no reason whatever, the generator stalled on me. [A u menya ni s togo ni s chego zaglokh dvizhok.] I used it basically at night to recharge the battery and for illumination. The specialists checked everything, to no avail. Next day, the whole "zone" was talking about the generator episode, including it among the anomalous phenomena. Slava[5] and I decided to resort to means appropriate to the occasion. Simultaneously, each to himself, we uttered the following text: "Permit us, please, to start the generator, we need it badly." A turn of the handle, and ... out of the muffler flowed some sort of black liquid. We carfully examined the generator and discovered a bolt whose purpose was unknown to us. We unscrewed it and poured in this liquid. With a half-turn, the gasoline generator started up. Excited voices rang out: "Look, 'they' are here, 'they' heard us." "Maybe we should know the [??? - matchast'] better?" was my version.

Late in the evening two light-blue flames appeared on the side of my cabin. I suggested that we check in the morning to see whether some path from the main road passed through that area. In the morning it turned out that not only was there a path, but fresh traces of a "blizzard" ["Buran" - possibly some sort of vehicle] and lanterns were attached to several trees. In these places, only one person travels on a "Buran" -- a professional hunter. Why he came there incognito and why the lanterns were left on the trees, could only be guessed at ...

On Saturday, I impatiently awaited the beginning of the U-QRQ-C NET. Finally, the frequency livened up with greetings, questions, and news. Everyone was coming in fine, even Tony, N7BG, and Aleksandr, 4K4AB. All wished us success and asked for a QSL card for the "UFO" Certificate [diplom "NLO"].

It was the fifth day of our stay in the "zone," and the "aurora" shaking of the signals on the lower bands didn't stop. The inhabitants of the "zone" became interested in this anomaly. I talked with UA4CH, LZ2JE, and UW9CP, and learned that after all this wasn't due to the influence of the "zone" but was a protracted "aurora." By 26 February the shaking was no longer observed ...

Several days later, it warmed up. Wandering in the woods, we came upon huge traces of some strange beast. We photographed them and found the reason for them - big chunks of snow falling from branches forming craters very similar to real traces. We had heard that no beast lives in the "zone." However, we came across rabbit, elk, and fox tracks everywhere in the forest and in the meadow. A field mouse lived in the cabin, and birds made unusual warbles for wintertime and sometimes flew into the radioshack ...

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[5]I don't recall any mention, earlier in the article, of "Slava" -- a man's nickname derived from Stanislav or Vyacheslav.

I should add that the measurement readings [? - zamery gravitatsii] on the "frightening mound" didn't register any deviations from the norm, nor did radiation exceed the norm. Frequency deviations were not observed in the transceiver or receiver. It's possible we scared the "boys" away with our generator. But we developed a quantity of slides and on two of them saw something incomprehensible. Since none of us could provide an explanation, we gave the slides to criminologists for study but have had no answer from them yet.

The operation of the U-QRQ-C station attracted radio amateur attention. About 3.5 thousand contacts were made. Many were interested in the club and in the conditions for joining. For this reason, I consider that the trip to the "anomalous zone" was not without utility.

p 10: "DX'LL GET YOU IF YOU DON'T WATCH OUT" ["DX DOBERETSYA DO VAS! (YESLI VY NE OSTEREZHETES'...)"], by Albert Kahn, K4FW [ex-W8DUS] [From QST of April 1970, page 62. TKS K4FW and W1UED!] [NOTE: K4FW believes the article appeared in QST during 1969.]

[Harold, a ham, invites a psychiatrist, also a ham, to his home to help him overcome an obsession with chasing DX. On the couch, Harold mentions hearing BFØAA the same morning calling CQ on 14030, whereupon the psychiatrist disappears out the door.]

p 11: "HOW TO RECEIVE AN OBSERVER [SWL] CALLSIGN" ["KAK POLUCHIT' NABLYUDATEL'SKIY POZYVNOY"], by G. Chliyants, UY5XE/UB5-068-3, 290000, g. L'vov, ab. yashch. 19 [P. O. Box 19, 290000 L'VOV], Master of Sport of the USSR; Chairman, Committee for Working with Observers [of the] Federation of Radio Sport of the USSR.

In 1988, the Committee for Working with Observers approved an instruction on the procedure for applying for and issuing callsigns. The new instruction differs from the old one in that the age limitation is removed for radioclub members. But now it's necessary to have an individual receiver. This will enable the observer to acquire oprating skills more quickly and naturally will bring the moment closer when he can receive a permit to build an individual radiostation.

Now I'd like to describe in concrete terms how to receive an observer callsign. First of all, it's necessary to be a member of a local radio club (sport club attached to a radio technical school, an independent sport-technical club, or another club) and pass tests given by a qualifying commission attached to the FRS or sport-technical club. Then one must fill out an application and submit two 2.5 x 3 cm photographs for a radioamateur-observer certificate [udostovereniye radiolyubitelya-nablyudatelya]. The responsible person in the area (this can be the Chairman of the local FRS, a radio technical school worker, or an instructor of the DOSAAF Committee) is obliged to issue an appropriate order [prikaz] and issue a certificate on a standard form.

"HOW TO INCREASE THE OBSERVATION [SWL] CONFIRMATION RATE"
[Continuation of previous article]

Many observers complain of the very low confirmation rate from Soviet as well as foreign shortwavers. The following advice and recommendations are based on my 30-year experience with SWL-ing.

It's very important to have your own QSL card!

Don't conduct an observation unless you hear the station you need with confidence (even though you do hear the station he's working). Try to record one or better yet several callsigns of stations from other continents worked by the station you're after. (In no case should these stations be located in your own oblast'.) This will avoid all suspicion that the observation was conducted other than over the air.

Give as many details on the contact as you can on your QSL card (precise frequency, CONTEST or DX-NET participation, etc.).

When you hear a DX station on different bands or modes, reduce to a minimum the number of QSL cards sent to it or its manager.

Enclose a carefully-prepared, self-addressed envelope with your QSL. Be patient. If you don't receive a QSL card, send a duplicate after a year or a year and a half, marking it "vtorichno" ["second (QSL)"].

Before sending a QSL card, carefully check the address.

Send a QSL for a contact with a DX-expedition to its QSL manager only after the expedition is over, but not later than one and one-half or two months afterword.

I wish you success.

p 12 - 14: "CQ-U."

INFO*INFO*INFO, edited by A. Gusev, UA3AVG

DIPLOMAS [CERTIFICATES].

The Federation of Radio Sport of Rovenskaya Oblast' (R-100-O No. 072) has established the diploma-pennant "072" for Soviet and foreign amateurs working stations in Rovno and Rovenskaya Oblast'. Soviet stations need 72 points. Foreign stations in Europe must have 12 QSOs and foreign stations on other continents 6 QSO's with Rovenskaya Oblast'. Soviet amateurs send log extracts, 50 kopecks in stamps, and a postal money order for R. 1.50 to 266028, g. Rovno, ab. yashch. 329, diplomnoy komissii [Diploma Commission, P. O. Box 329, 266028 ROVNO]. Foreign amateurs send 10 International Reply Coupons to cover the cost of the diploma and mailing costs.

DX NEWS.

Y9ØANT, belonging to the Third Antarctic expedition of the GDR, will operate from [worldwide QTH locator sub-] square JB59WF until March 1991. Look for the station on 3503, 3790, 7003, 7045, 14010, 14190, 14290, 21010, 21190, 21290, 28010, and 28490 kHz. Send QSL cards via the Y2 QSL Bureau or to the address: Manfred Gronak, Y21RO, Köllnische Str. 22, Berlin, GDR - Europe - 1199.

Laotian club station XV8KPL goes on the air almost daily beginning at 1000 UT on 28460 kHz. QSL to Box 864, Vientiane, Laos.

The EK9JG DXpedition operated from 17 to 27 December 1989 from the railroad stations of Khabirutta and Tundra. Soviet amateurs should QSL to UA9JAT and foreign amateurs to I2MNL (direct).

EL2CX [Carl G. Kratzer, K3RV] plans to operate actively for a year and a half or two years. QSL via N2AU.

ACHIEVEMENTS ON 1.8 MHz

Callsign	CFM	WKD
R-150-S		
UG6GAW	184	193
UT5AB	160	172
UA2FF	158	173
RT4UA	157	162
UA4HBW	156	162
RA3DOX	148	157
UQ2PZ	148	153
RT5UY	143	156
UA9MR	114	124
UQ2GNL	77	97

Information for the next table of achievements is requested by 15 July 1990.

Callsign	CFM	WKD
R-100-O		
RA9JBC	176	178
RA4SBJ	175	175
UG6GAW	172	176
UA6HIF	169	171
UA9AQN	168	169
UA9APX	164	168
UA3QUQ	161	165
UA9AAY	159	163
UA9MR	156	168
YL2MB (ex-UQ2GMB)	155	158
***		
RI8AU	130	139
RF6FX	117	128
UC2AGH	101	112

QSL BUREAU ADDRESSES
TATARSKAYA ASSR
(094, UA4P)

420045, g. Kazan', ab. yashch. 19 [P. O. Box 19, 420045 KAZAN'] (Republic QSL bureau, servicing stations with suffixes 4PA - 4PAZ, 4PB - 4PBZ, 4PC - 4PCZ, 4PD - 4PDZ, and 4PW - 4PWZ).

423400, g. Al'met'yevsk Tatarskoy ASSR, ab. yashch. 88 [P. O. Box 88, 423400 AL'MET'YEVSK (Tatarskaya ASSR)] (services 4PJ - 4PJZ only).

423207, g. Bugul'ma Tatarskoy ASSR, ab. yashch. 88 [P. O. Box 88, 423207 BUGUL'MA (Tatarskaya ASSR)] (4PI - 4PIZ, 4PT - 4PTZ).

423630, g. Yelabuga Tatarskoy ASSR, ab. yashch. 55 [P. O. Box 55, 423630 YELABUGA (Tatarskaya ASSR)] (4PE - 4PEZ).

423520, g. Zainsk Tatarskoy ASSR, ab. yashch. 114 [P. O. Box 114, 423520 ZAINSK (Tatarskaya ASSR)] (4PQ - 4PQZ).

422520, g. Zelenodol'sk Tatarskoy ASSR, ab. yashch. 24 [P. O. Box 24, 422520 ZELENODOL'SK (Tatarskaya ASSR)] (services town of Zelenodol'sk).

423270, g. Leninogorsk Tatarskoy ASSR, ab. yashch. 41 [P. O. Box 41, 423270 LENINOGORSK (Tatarskaya ASSR)] (4PK - 4PKZ).

423810, g. Naberezhnyye Chelny Tatarskoy ASSR, ab. yashch. 30 [P. O. Box 30, 423810 NABEREZHNYYE CHELNY (Tatarskaya ASSR)] (4PM - 4PMZ, 4PN - 4PNZ, 4PO - 4POZ, 4PZ - 4PZZ).

423550, g. Nizhnekamsk Tatarskoy ASSR, ab. yashch. 73 [P. O. Box 73, 423550 NIZHNEKAMSK (Tatarskaya ASSR)] (4PF - 4PFZ, 4PR - 4PRZ).

422950, g. Chistopol' Tatarskoy ASSR, ab. yashch. 4 [P. O. Box 4, 422950 CHISTOPOL' (Tatarskaya ASSR)] (4PU - 4PUZ).

VHF*UHF*SHF, edited by S. Bubennikov

Last year, three distant ultrashortwave [VHF + UHF + SHF] expeditions took place:

From 22 Through 24 November 1989, with the support of the komsomol [party youth organization] rayon committee, a radio-expedition was organized to the north of Karelia (Kenten'ga village, WW-locator KP55TU). Finnish radio amateurs have operated from this square [KP55?] from time to time. RA6AAB/U1N, UA6BAC/U1N, and UA6AH/UA1N went on the air from it. On these days, a weak radioaurora permitted several QSOs with UR1RXM (over 800 km), UV1AS, and several Finnish and Swedish stations. The only tropospheric QSOs were with nearby ultrashortwave stations UA1ZCL, UA1ZCG, and UA1OJ, about 400 km away. Meteor QSOs using sporadic meteors were made with RB5AL, UZ3DD, and DL8HCZ. In all, some 30 QSOs took place, none of them occurred on 430 MHz.

UA1OJ, between 20 December 1989 through 19 January 1990, operated for the second time from Kurganskaya Oblast' or to be more exact from Shadrinsk (MO16). He made 22 QSOs with stations in eight oblasts; his furthest contact via "aurora" was UA4NM (870 km) and via "tropo" UA4UD (634 km). Unfortunately, on account of a malfunction in his transmitter, UA1OJ could not operate during the Quadranids meteor showers. What possibilities remained unrealized? Well, at 1300 UT on 3 January, during a 2.5-minute cycle, UA1CJ/UA9Q received up to twenty bursts and many pings from UA4UK -- which means the signal practically never dropped out. The same day the Severodvinsk ham [OA1OJ??] heard [i.e. did not work] 18 stations, among them UZ3DD, UA3MBJ, UA9XEA, UV1AS, UL7TQ, RA3LE, and UA3XFA. But during the last days of the expedition a communication did take place via sporadic meteors with RW3RW.

UL7BAT worked UL7RAI (MN37) in Dzhezkazgan (470 km), the only station in a vast area (over 70 squares) in central Kazakhstan.

According to the foreign press, many radio amateurs consider their most interesting DX QSOs of last year [1989] on the 144 MHz band to have been with the Soviet-Finnish 4J1FS expedition on the island of Malyy Vysotskiy (square KP40), recognized as a separate country on the DXCC listing. As reported by UW3AX, basically through the efforts of experienced ultrashortwaver OH6DD almost 500 QSOs were made, 48 of them via meteor (with Y2, OE, DL, SM, OK, OZ, PA, HG, and YU). Contacts were made with Soviet stations (UA1A, UA1W, UA3D, UA3R, UQ, and UR) using "tropo" and during two "auroras" (moderate and weak) 24 and 28 May. There were even two Moon-bounce contacts on 144 MHz with EME "giants" W5UN and W4ZD. The results were modest on 430 MHz -- QSOs with OH and UR only.

pp 15 - 16: "CREATE, THINK UP, TRY OUT" ["TVORI, VYDUMYVAY, PROBUY"], by R. Mordukhovich, Troitsk - Moscow.

The problem of spare-time activities, especially for young people, has not spared even what could be considered élite towns.

Take, for example, Troitsk, in Moskovskaya Oblast'. It's a large scientific center, many of whose inhabitants work at the Institute of Earth Magnetism and Radiowave Propagation [Institut zemnogo magnetisma i rasprostraneniya radiovoln] of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, and the FIAE [filial Institute atomnoy energii imeni I. V. Kurchatova - Branch of the Nuclear Energy Institute Named After I. V. Kurchatov]. It's just half an hour to the nearest station of the Moscow metro. But even here the local young people have the problem of what to do with their spare time.

Fortunately, thanks to the efforts of enthusiasts, the problem for many boys and girls is on the way to solution. Here is an extract to an answer to a poll [opros] taken among local school children. [A girl wrote:]

"For all of my 16 years, I've lived in the town of Troitsk. Before, I didn't like it here very much, and just called it a hole [dura]. But as soon as the "Baytik" ["little byte?] club opened everything changed. For example, what Moscow schoolchild can simply sit down at a computer, not just any coputer but a Japanese one? With the appearance of such a wonder other novelties have begun to be introduced into our lives. It's surprising that they opened "Baytik" for us, the children.

So what is "Baytik" anyway? Here's what its director, Vladimir Yevgen'yevich Dudochkin, told us:

"The club was created at the initiative of Dmitriy Nikolayevich Sobolenko, Deputy Director of FIAE and today its Chief Engineer. The FIAE management supported the initiative and allotted funds for the acquisition of computers and other equipment. Of course, most of the teachers, paid and unpaid [shtatnyye i neshtatnyye], are also employees of FIAE.

In January 1986, "Baytik-1" was opened on the top floor [??? - v tsokol'nom etazhe] of a new apartment house. A year later, "Baytik-2" made its appearance, followed by "Baytik-3." ...

Practically the whole first year was spent on methodology. Classes were held on the subject, included in the school curriculum, of "Basics of Informatics and Computer Technology."

The meeting of teachers, which decides on teaching plans on a collective basis, became the "ruling organ" of the club.

The club is now frequented by 1700 pupils beginning with the early grades. A thousand of them are members of one or another circle, of which there are about 60.

Notwithstanding these very impressive figures, computer hunger [kom'yúterskiy gólod] in the town is far from being satisfied, as one may read in the newspaper "Comp-Camp" ("Komp'yuterskiy lager'") published by "Baytik-1." For example, Dima Matyushkin writes, in the March issue, that a great number of people wait to get into "Baytik" in order to work at "ARC" and "YAMAHA" machines. Unfortunately, "Baytik" isn't made of rubber, so lines of kids form every day.

Computers are also used intensively at "Baytik-2," but for physics experiments.

The principle used for lessons at "Baytik-2" is borrowed from American universities. A group of schoolchildren, in researching a specific task, surround a teacher [prepodavatel'], or to be more exact a leader [rukovoditel']. The group sets up an experiment and constructs a mathematical model which is run on computer. After they acquire enough skill, the kids take on real tasks, taking part in the scientific-research work of FIAE or other organizations.

In September of last year, "Baytik-3" opened. It is assumed that this will be an ecological club. Necessary equipment is on hand. Teaching began with a series of lectures on physics and chemistry.

There is one other interesting way in which the club operates -- the joint Soviet-Amrican Computer Camp [sovmestnyy sovetsko-amerikanskiy komp'yuterskiy lager']. True, this is not a camp in the strict sense, but a mutual exchange of youth delegations with American colleagues. There's no doubt that the goals of getting closer and achieving better mutual understanding are served by the fact that the children (ours in the USA and the American ones here) live in families, work together on scientific problems, and share their free time together; there is also a broad cultural program.

The organization of such joint trips required real-time communication [operativnaya svyaz']. Such communication, of course, had to be computerized and had to be realized through appropriate public networks [sootvetstvuyushchiye obshchedostupnyye seti]. Unfortunately, these don't yet exist in our country. But the club was lucky. A joint Soviet-American enterprise, the firm "San Francisco Moscow Teleport"] [firma "San-Frantsisko-Teleport-Moskva"] gave "Baytik" access to one of the US computer networks, which spurred development of a new orientation in the club's operation. A computer network is now being created in the town and will soon begin operation. It will help put computer teachers in touch with one another. An association [assotsiatsiya] of this type exists in the USA, for example, helping to spread knowledge about experience, methodology, and so forth.

Some -- for example the "Zodiak" club in Moscow and the physics-mathematics boarding school in Kiev -- support creating such an organization in our country as well. It's possible that over time it will prove possible to create an all-Union teachers' computer network.

Amateur packet radiocommunication is one step on the road to developing computer networks. The ["Baytik"] club engages in this promising area of activity as well. Collective station UZ3DXB conducts amateur communications in the packet mode.

It's of course impossible to describe in sufficient detail the activities of almost 60 circles of the club. We'll just note in conclusion that everyone who takes part in them tries to be of use to the town [of Troitsk] in resolving practical, everyday problems that the professionals don't get around to. For example, a program was written to search automatically for malfunctions [neispravnosti] in the town telephone network. The town book store uses an automated book inventory system. And one of the kindergardens in Troitsk is equipped with game programs.

Create, think up, try out! These words have become the slogan and the immutable rule of life for the "Baytik" computer club.

pp 17 - 20: "BACK TO HERTZ?" ["NAZAD K GERTSU"], by Doctor of Technical Sciences S[ergey Georgiyevich] Bunin, UB5UN, Kiev [and member of the "Radio" Editorial Board].

[The article reviews Hertz' work on radiowave propagation theory. It goes on to outline future work on the transmission of intelligence through the use of a non-sinosoidal rectangular carrier and on the use of complex (coded) nonsinosoidal signals permitting multiple frequency use.]

pp 20 - 22: "THE FATE AND TRAGEDY OF CONSTRUCTOR UGLOV," by V. Kosnichenko and Ye. Shoshkov, Leningrad.

[About Aleksandr Tikhonovich Uglov, an outstanding radio engineer. Born 30 January 1884, Uglov quarrelled in 1920 with N. I. Yezhov, who became People's Commissar for Internal Affairs (i.e. head of the NKVD) 26 September 1936. On 17 October 1937, Uglov, by then professor at the Gor'kiy Industrial Institute, was arrested. As his daughter later determined, he was sentenced on 21 January 1938 for spying for Germany (the sentence was signed by Yezhov and Vyshinskiy) and executed at Gor'kiy 21 February 1938.]

pp 31 - 35: "IONIZING-RADIATION INTENSITY METER" ["IZMERITEL' INTENSIVNOSTI IONIZIRUYUSHCHEGO IZLUCHENIYA"], by Yu. Vinogradov, Moscow.

[An introduction relates the meter described in the article to the Chernobyl' nuclear explosion (26 April 1986), whose effects were felt over a far wider area than was anticipated earlier.]

[A postscript to the article on page 35 describes two radiation standards presently in force in the USSR -- 60 and 120 microbers (ber = biological equivalent of a roentgen), reflecting findings of April 1989 by the NKRZ (natsional'naya komissiya po radiatsionnoy zashchite - National Commission for Protection from Radiation).]

pp 40 - 41: "COMPUTER VIRUS" ["COMP'YUTERNYY VIRUS"], by A. Gutnikov.

pp 47 - 51: "NON-CRYSTAL DECODER FOR SECAM - PAL - NTSC" ["BESKVARTSEVYY DEKODER SEKAM - PAL - NTSTs"], by S. [K.] Sotnikov, Moscow. [Expansion by same author on article of same name in RADIO #09/1989, pp 54 - 57.]

p 55: "LETTERS TO THE EDITOR."

"I Want to Become a Shortwaver"
from A. Gritchenko, Kyappesel'ga, Karel'skaya SSR

I'm a 16-year-old tenth-grader living in a working settlement in Karelia. My dream is to become a shortwaver, but I throw up my hands trying to assemble a radiostation.

Getting radio parts is very difficult. It's practically impossible to find a thermo-stable condenser for a transmitter -- in cooperatives or Rosposyltorg [a mail-order house]. A year ago I ordered a "Radio-87VPP," an all-wave shortwave receiver, for 40 rubles from the "Pozyvnoy" ["Callsign"] Cooperative; they haven't sent it yet and probably never will.

After I finish school I'll go to a radiotechnical institute. For the time being I do nothing. "Radio" magazine publishes articles about radioclubs and circles whose members engage in construction, participate in exhibitions, and take first place. It's painful to read such things. Of course, it wouldn't be bad to have everything -- parts, the right conditions, an experienced instructor. But how about those who are deprived of all this?

"The Tortures of Hell" [??? - "Khozhdeniye po Mukam"]
from S. Yevstifeyev, Tyumenskaya Oblast'

At the present time, I'm working beyond the Arctic Circle, but for a long time I've been meaning to write about my troubles, going back to when I was organizing a collective station in Yermentau, Tselinogradskaya Oblast' [in Kazakhstan]. I used to go to the Central Committee [headquarters] [presumably in Alma-Ata, the republic capital]. I can only describe the treatment I received there as the "tortures of hell" [??? - "khozhedeniye po mukam"].

The tortures continue to this day. I won't describe my troubles in detail. I'm not the only one in this situation. For many years, I've been reading articles describing the groans of radio amateurs. Excuse my audacity, but I've come to understand, through all of my contacts with DOSAAF, that we are needed by no one in that organization.

Therefore I believe that radio amateurs should leave DOSAAF and create their own organ -- a Central Committee of Radiosport or a Central Committee of Radio. The name of the association isn't important. I think each of us would be willing to pay substantial dues just to feel that someone was paying attention to our troubles and concerns.

I myself never received any help from DOSAAF though I was badly in need of it.

pp 56 - 57: "THE 16 - 49m RANGE IN THE 'QUARTZ RP-309' RADIO-RECEIVER" ["DIAPAZON 16...19m V RADIOPRIYEMNIKE 'KVARTS RP-309"], by Ye. [A.] Karnaukhov, Moscow.[6]

For several decades now, a GOST [gosudarstvennyy oshchesoyuznyy standart - State All-Union Standard] has been in effect in our country, in accordance with which radiobroadcast receivers produced by industry for reception of shortwave radiostations were designed for 25m - 75m [4 - 12 MHz] only.

This GOST, adopted during the "Cold War," was aimed at making difficult the reception of information from foreign countries. For the same reason, the editors of "Radio" magazine could not publish descriptions of amateur receivers with a broad shortwave range.

The new political thinking and the signature by the Soviet Union of the Final Document of the Vienna Meeting (January 1989) changed the situation radically, including [with respect to the] reception of radio transmissions. The jamming [glusheniye] of foreign radiostations ceased. The GOST for radiobroadcast receivers is to be re-examined. The Ministry of Communication of the USSR has already assigned the task [zadaniye] of developing new requirements.

But this is a matter for the future. In the meantime, without waiting for the results of the restructuring of industry, radio amateurs may, on their own, modify the limits of the shortwave ranges of their receivers to provide more short wave [coverage], making use of the recommendations in the present article. Practically any set can be modified, but the simplest modification is of sets having an overall range of 25 - 49m with bandspread at any point.

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[6]The beginning of this article, by a member of the Editorial Board of "Radio" magazine, suggests that the "12 MHz barrier" -- the absence of internationally-allocated broadcasting bands above 12 MHz in Soviet-made shortwave receivers intended for sale to Soviet citizens for general use -- is being re-examined. Also of interest is the admission in the article of what those who knew about the "12 MHz barrier" knew all along, namely that its purpose was to inhibit listening to foreign shortwave broadcasting stations.

By way of example, the transistorized "Quartz RP-309" radioreceiver, recently produced by industry (and available for sale) was modified. ...

[Two possible modifications are described in the remaining four fifths of the article. The first extends the receiving range to 5.9 MHz - 19.4 MHz (i.e. from the 49m to the 16m internationally allocated broadcasting bands), and the other, a simplified version, extending the range to 5.9 MHz - 15.5 MHz (49m - 19m bands).]

[End of RADIO section]

[This annex contains rough, summary translations of selected items from the newspaper **SOVETSKIY PATRIOT** (SP), published by the military training organization DOSAAF. Most of the news concerning amateur radio appears in the numbered column "**NLD**" ("**N**a **l**yubitel'skikh **d**iapazonakh" - "On the Amateur Bands"), edited by Boris Grigor'yevich Stepanov, UW3AX. Effective in January 1990, "SP" has appeared once rather than twice weekly.]

NLD-1450, 06 - 12 August 1990, p 15 (of 16):

DIPLOMAS [CERTIFICATES]

The Association of Radio Amateurs attached to the "Chernobyl'" Union has established the "Chernobyl'" diploma, for which 100 points are needed. Contacts count if made no earlier than 26 April 1986 [the date of the nuclear explosion]. Two memorial stations (15 points each) must be worked, as well as three radio amateurs who took part in the liquidation of the consequencies of the catastrophe (10 points each). Contacts with amateurs from oblasts affected by the tragedy and with operators of memorial statons count 1 point. The memorial stations are RK3CH, RK3Y, and RK5CH. [No doubt the "CH" is the first and third call stands for Chernobyl'.] The "liquidators" are RA4LF, RV6ABL, RB5WL, UZ3AU, UA4AKA, UA9-154-1680, UB4HX, UB4UBO, UB4JG, UB5EAY, UB5ERS, UB5HHX, UB5KCQ, UB5ERG, RB5CF, UB5QLK, UB5SN, UB5UGD, UO5OOP, UT5ULK, and UY5XE. Operators of memorial stations are RA3ACC, RA3APO, RW3AH, UA3DJK, UB5LGM, UV3ACQ, UV3DHH, UW3AG, and UY5OO. Oblasts affected by the tragedy were Gomel'skaya, Mogilevskaya, Kiyevskaya, Zhitomirskaya, Chernigovskaya, Bryanskaya, Kaluzhskaya, Orlovskaya, and Tul'skaya. From UY5XE.

NLD-1451, 13 - 19 August 1990:

CLUB NEWS

The yacht "Kamchatka" will follow the itinerary Szcecin (Poland) - Petropavlovsk - Kamchatskiy until October. UØZ/MM (operators UAØZDD and UAØZBC) will operate CW and SSB on 14 and 21 MHz. The base stations of the expedition are UA3HR, RA3AZ, UA4HBW, UAØZCJ, and UZØZWA. From UAØZBC.

QSL addresses for expeditions (information from UB5BCP, UB5IBF, UA4FU, and UA9JAT):

- UA8T/UB5BCP (19 - 23 July 1990): 282023, USSR[7], Ternopol', ab. yashch. 195 [P. O. Box 195, 282023 TERNOPOL' (Ukrainian SSR)].
- UB5IBF/UA8V and RB5ITO/UA8V (15 July - 10 August 1990): 341039, USSR[7], Mariupol', ab. yashch. 2046 [P. O. Box 2046, 341039 MARIUPOL' (Ukrainian SSR)].

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[7]The abbreviation "USSR" appears here in the Russian version of the address and stands for Ukrainskaya Sovetskaya Sotsialisticheskaya Respublika - Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (not Union of Soviet Socialist Republics).

- UZ4FWE/UZ9Y and UZ4FWE/UZ9Z (2 - 8 and 9 - 16 July 1990): 440600, Penza, ab. yashch. 11 [P. O. Box 11, 440600 PENZA].
- UZ9JWD/4K4 and 4K4A (Zapadnyy Kamennyy Island) (1 - 15 August 1990): 626400, Tyumenskaya obl., Surgut-tsentr, ab. yashch. 82 [P. O. Box 82, 626400 SURGUT-CENTER (Tyumenskaya Oblast')].

RB4ES/UAØX will be active until the end of October 1990. The most likely operating times (SSB) are 0700 - 1100 UT around 21200 kHz and beginning at 1800 UT on 14175 kHz in the RA4HA NET. QSL to 322530, Dnepropetrovskaya obl., Zheltyye Vody, ab. yashch. 51 [P. O. Box 51, 322530 ZHELTYYE VODY (Dnepropetrovskaya Oblast')]. From UB5EFW.

The founding conference [uchreditel'naya konferentsiya] of the Association of Soviet Medical Worker - Radio Amateurs [Assotsiatsiya sovetskikh medikov-radiolyubiteley] (U-MR-A)[8] will be held in Smolensk 7 and 8 September 1990. Radio amateur medical workers wishing to take part should contact the organizing committee at 216532, Smolenskaya obl., Desnogorsk, ab. yashch. 5 (A. Snegovoy, RA3LK) [A. Snegovoy, RA3LK, P. O. Box 5, 216532 DESNOGORSK (Smolenskaya Oblast')].

UA8TAA (3rd category), the first permanent station in the Ust'-Ordynskiy Buryatskiy Autonomous Okrug, has gone on the air. QSL to 666110, Irkutskaya obl., Ust'-Orda, ab. yashch. 121, Golubevu I. [I. Gulubev, UA8TAA, P. O. Box 121, 666110 UST'-ORDA (Irkutskaya Oblast')] From I. Golubev, UA8TAA.

A memorial pennant is awarded for contacting 4J5FV in the 1990 CQ WPX CW CONTEST. Apply to 343820, USSR[7], Donetskaya obl., Yenakiyevo-29, ab. yashch. 1 (RAA) [RAA, P. O. Box 1, 343820 YENAKIYEVO-29 (Donetskaya Oblast')]. From RB5IJ.

DIPLOMAS [CERTIFICATES]

N2AA holds "P. I. Chaykovskiy" [Tchaikovsky] diploma No. 1. RL7RBD holds No. 2. From UA4WE.

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[8]See letter to the editor from Petr Nikolayevich Piskun, RB4IJA, in RADIO #06/1990, p 88 (summary translation #06/1990, p 18), for more concerning U-MR-A. Piskun's involvement with U-MR-A was also mentioned in NLD-1374, 12 March 1989 (summary translation RADIO #02/1989, page c) and in NLD-1399, 9 August 1989 (summary translation RADIO #07/1989, page a).

NLD-1452, 20 - 26 August 1990:

CLUB NEWS

The operators of EKØMAR made a further attempt to disembark on Iona Island (IOTA AS-69); possibly by the time you read this they'll be on the air. At the end of August the expedition plans to operate from the Shantar Islands (AS-44).[9] From UA9OBA.

UZ9OWM will operate from the island of Kunashir[10] (AS-25) at the end of August 1990, and then from the island of Shikotan[10] (AS-62). In September, it plans to operate from the island of Russkiy (AS-66). Its callsign will be accompanied by the portable designators RVØF, RWØF, RZØF, and RAØL. QSL cards should be sent to 630092, Novosibirsk-92, ab. yashch. 1 [P. O. Box 1, 630092 NOVOSIBIRSK-92]. From UA9OMD.

An expedition organized by the Radio Amateur Expedition League [Radiolyubitel'skaya ekspeditsionnaya liga] will operate from the Solovetskiye Islands[11] (EU-66) until 10 September. QSL cards will be sent out by RA3YF.

In connection with the forthcoming conference of radio amateurs of the Volga region, information "round tables" are being held Mondays and Wednesdays on 7080 kHz at 2000 MSK [1600 GMT]. The conference organizers request all FRS's in the Volga region to report the composition of their delegations prior to 10 September. From UA4DF.

DIPLOMAS

The "Chernobyl'" diploma (see NLD-1450) is also issued to observers under analogous conditions. UB5IFH and UB5WN should be added to the list of "liquidators" [of the consequences of the 26 April 1986 nuclear explosion at Chernobyl'], and UB4UBO should be replaced by the new callsign UB5UO. From UY5XE.

[End of SOVETSKIY PATRIOT annex]

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[9]Regarding the expedition to the Shantar Islands, see also NLD-1444, 25 June - 01 July 1990 (summary translation RADIO #05/1990, p 24).

[10]Kunashir and Shikotan form part of a group of islands lying north-east of Hokkaido and referred to by the Japanese as the "Northern Territories." Japan is actively pursuing its claim to the Northern Territories, which were seized by the USSR at the end of World War II.

[11]See also RADIO #06/1990 p 19 (summary translation p 13 including footnote 12).